YOUTH AND SEXUALITY: A SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY ON COLLEGE GOING STUDENTS OF AGRA DISTRICT

SYNOPSIS

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Introduction

'Youth' is a phase of life generally characterized by acceleration of physical growth and associated changes in psychology and behavior, which transforms the child into an adult. Youth shows strong passion, motivation and will power which also make them the most valuable human resource for economic, cultural and political development of a nation. Different segments of the youth would have different needs and concerns, which need to be addressed. As they have high concerns and expectations for themselves as well as the societies that they live in it make them most vulnerable and pressured segment of a society. In the midst of all these pressures which transcend all borders, young people today are shaping social, political and economic development, challenging norms which are biased, discriminatory and prejudiced, while laying and building a foundation for a better future world. The Youth represent the most dynamic and vibrant segment of the population. It is the most energetic and productive section of a society. A country's ability and potential for growth is determined by the size and strength of its youth population. There is no universally agreed international definition of the youth age group. For statistical purposes, however, the National Youth Policy of Government of India (2014) defines youth as age group that ranges between 15 and 29 years of age. Youth in the age group of 15-29 years comprise 27.2% of the population for year 2021 which is expected to decrease to 22.7 by 2036 but still huge in absolute numbers of 345 million. India has one of the youngest populations in world. A country where majority of the population is young, it is very important to have an understanding of their problems and their views. Sexuality is one of the burning topics among youth but it is also a taboo in some context in society like India. Young people are unable to discuss their sexual concerns freely in society due to social and cultural taboo. Many people in our country or world are still stigmatized and discriminated against it because of their actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity.

Higher Education is an important educational tool much needed for growth of a person's life it benefitting both individual and society. It plays a vital role in developing a quality culture in an organization or in a society by encompassing structural, managerial, cultural and psychological attributes to act in synergy. Attain college education is an important phase in youth's life for the discovery of their intellectual horizontal as they pursue higher education. It is also the time where the

quest for knowledge doesn't end with their field of study for many students; there is an extracurricular focus on intimacy in the pursuit of carnal knowledge. For most of the new students, it is their first opportunity to live their own life and make decision of their own, without direct influence of their parents and family. College is a time when these students mature and develop a career and become productive member of society. This time is also the time of their life when sexual attitudes among college students appeared to develop. However, this time period of life can also be the period of pressure, and social influence that can lead to wrong decision making, especially sexuality related issues which create many problems like health and wellbeing issues among them.

World Health Organization (2006a) states that "sexual health today is widely understood as a state of physical, emotional, mental and social well-being in relation to sexuality; it is not merely the absence of disease, dysfunction or infirmity. Sexual health requires a positive and respectful approach to sexuality and sexual relationships, as well as the possibility of having pleasurable and safe sexual experiences, free of coercion, discrimination and violence. For sexual health to be attained and maintained, the sexual rights of all persons must be respected, protected and fulfilled."

Sexuality is a vital in the lives of every young once life. Issues of gender identity and sexual behavior are increasingly prominent in various spheres of popular culture and media consumption. Sexuality has always been a sensitive subject throughout the ages. But in past decade we can see tremendous changes in the perception and attitudes towards sexuality in society because what was once considered obscene and abnormal is now accepted by the general population worldwide. It is also a known fact that same-sex relationship is gaining acceptance as compared to years ago when it was not acceptable and resulting forced to torture and prison. Indeed, it has become clear that human sexuality includes many different forms of behavior and expression, and that the recognition of the diversity of sexual behavior and expression contributes to people's overall sense of well-being and health.

Definition of Sex and Sexuality

Sex is a tingling topic, which make ear sharper so that nothing is missed out. Sex, everyone talk about it endlessly, especially among school/college friends, working non-working men & women and with intellectuals etc.

The term 'Sex' can refer to two things. Firstly, it refers to the biological characteristics distinguishing

male and female in terms of their differences in chromosomes, anatomy, hormones, reproductive systems, and other physiological components. Sex is the biological characteristics that distinguishing male and female based on both primary sex characteristics like the reproductive system and secondary characteristics such as height, muscularity and other physiological components. A person's sex, as determined by his or her biology, does not always correspond with his or her gender. Therefore, the terms *sex* and *gender* are not interchangeable. Gender generally means by the attributes, behaviors, personality characteristics and expectation associated with a person's biological sex in a given culture. Secondly this term also refers to lovemaking or intimate contact between two people, as in 'having sex'. For centuries, societies all over the world agree to the understanding that sex means just one thing: sexual intercourse within the context of marriage for the purpose of procreation. In contrast to this view, the concept of sex in modern times has been significantly expanded, and sexual activity has become quite complex. For instance, 'sex' now refers to a wide range of behaviors and sexual activity today is no longer legally or morally restricted to traditional heterosexual marriage either. Furthermore, sexual acts can serve a wide range of purposes, people now see sex as a form of recreation, a way to express love or get closer to a partner etc. Sex is also psychological in the sense that it is an important part of our emotional lives; it can provide intense pleasure, but it can also give us agony and involve us in many difficult decisions.

Sexuality is viewed as a person's capacity for sexual feelings. It clearly link with a person's self-perception, how a person see himself/herself. Most importantly it involves the subjective desire to experience sexual orientation and possibly to engage in overt expression of that desire. In many instances the sexual desire involves the motivation to engage in sexual contact with another human being. WHO (2006a) defined sexuality as, a central aspect of being human throughout life encompasses sex, gender identities and roles, sexual orientation, eroticism, pleasure, intimacy and reproduction. Sexuality is experienced and expressed in thoughts, fantasies, desires, beliefs, attitudes, values, behaviours, practices, roles and relationships. Sexuality is influenced by the interaction of biological, psychological, social, economic, political, cultural, legal, historical, religious and spiritual factors." Therefore, sexuality can define as a complex understanding of human nature, and involves many parts of who we are, how we see our self and other, our values and beliefs, our experiences and

relationships and more. Sexuality is a term used to describe the way that people express themselves as a sexual being. Human sexuality is how people experience and express themselves as sexual beings and the choices they made for expressing their sexual preferences may be termed as sexual orientation.

Factors affect Sexuality

According to Potki et al. (2017) factors that can affect human sexuality are as follows: firstly, human sexuality is affected by biological factors which includes feelings, beliefs, and perception by which they shape and adjust their behavior. The understanding of an individual as a sexual being is shaped before reaching adolescent period and years before engaging in sexual behavior which becomes apparent once an individual reaches adolescence.

Secondly, there is the physiological factor which is mainly concern with body image and includes the understanding, attitude and perception to one's own appearance. While positive perception and attitude towards body image promotes sexual confidence and behavior, dissatisfaction of one's own body results in anxiety and worry which hinders sexual behaviors of individuals.

Lastly, sexuality is also influence by social factors which includes parents, peers and media. Families being the first social institution, parents are usually the first people to teach young children about sexual identity and inculcate love, kindness and humility. Peers also shape an individual's sexuality because once children reached an age where they start having interactions outside of their homes, their values, principles and behaviors are significantly influenced by their peers. Now days media is also emerge as a new and very effective social factor that affects human sexuality, it has great impact in shaping culture, values and attitudes about love, dating and sexual relationships especially among young generation.

Indian Perspective on Sex and Sexuality

India is vast culture country, its culture touched every aspect of its citizen's life, and sex and sexuality is not apart from it. Indian concept of sexuality has evolved over time and has been influenced by various rulers and religions. In Indian culture family plays as basic institution of culture, to sustain this institution marriage plays a significant role for creating a family. Its culture dose not subscribes the idea of autonomy of pleasure and abandonment of sexuality. In other word sexuality seems as internal part of its culture witch bound with some moral values.

In ancient India sex and sexuality underwent apparent changes which can best explained through the historical pathways. The history of Indian culture dating back to the Indus Valley Civilization forms the root of cultural philosophies, including sexuality. Ancient India has been very open about sex and sexuality as evident in their paintings and sculptures. India has a rich cultural history on sexuality, many evidence can be seen in their erotic carvings found in temples and caves. The oldest written texts of sexuality and sex are found in the ancient texts of Hinduism and Buddhism, particularly the Vedic Script that provide righteous perspectives on sexuality. "Indians have also been credited with writing a famous text somewhere between the 1st and 6th centuries known as 'Kama Sutra' where the main context consists of expression of Indian attitude toward sex as a vital and natural element of their psyche and life. Other books that were written at the time which had poetic and colorful description of ways to become pleasing lovers and how to promote satisfying love making include Apsaras, which are writings about a female supernatural being, a divine nymph, who ruled the sky and dance for entertainment and often seduce mortal men; also a book called 'The Perfumed Garden' which is a classical Islamic sex manual. Hence, India is considered to be the pioneer of sex education through their art and literature" (Chakraborty and Thakurata, 2013).

During the provincial era (15th to 17th centuries) India was invaded by the Portuguese, the Dutch, and the English, and she saw a power play between them, with the British emerging as dominant in the country in early 19th century. This dominance brought with it the Victorian values on sex and sexuality, hindered Indian sexual liberalism and imposed a strict attitude towards sex confining it to matrimony. The pre-Independence Era saw many changes especially towards women with Purdah system isolating women, Sati practices wherein widows were burned alive at their husband's pyre and the concept of dowry and child marriages took over the society. Eventually, gender roles were strictly imposed where the role of a husband and wife was differentiated by the distribution of chores which was solely based on the binary sex of male and female. During the British rule in the Penal Code of India imposed in 1890 by Lord Macaulay criminalized 'gay sex' Misra (2009). India then found itself more subservient to Britain's codes of morality. Indian sexual liberalism bore the brunt of Victorian values. The liberal attitudes of Hinduism and the mindset of pluralism were discarded as "primitive, barbaric," citing as a proof of inferiority of the East.

After India attained independence, sex was still considered a taboo and the matter was not discussed especially in the family. Men remained the dominant sex and women were married off at a young age and lack independence and authority to control their sexuality. These young women lack of adequate knowledge on matters of sexual behavior and protection resulted in early pregnancies and other health issues. Despite sex and sexuality being a taboo, legislations were formed to counter gender discrimination like Madras Devadasis (Prevention of Dedication) Act, 1947; Sati (Prevention) Act, 1987; The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 and the like, besides various constitutional safeguards like Article 14 which is equality before law and read "The State shall not deny to any person equality before the law or the equal protection of the laws within the territory of India", and Article 15 which is concern with "Prohibition of Discrimination on grounds of Religion, Race, Caste, Sex or place of birth" (Bharadwaj, 2015).

Indians today, have also become more expressive in terms of their affection and are now more accepting towards certain sexual behaviors that were once considered illegal, where in, on 2nd July 2009 it revoked IPC section 377 and ruled that "consensual sex amongst adults is legal" which includes gay sex and finally decriminalizes sex between two consenting adult gays (Misra, 2009). Sexuality today can no longer be overlooked or ignored especially in work on health and human rights because the growing diversity of rights-based advocacy and documentation, and new initiatives in public health, health policy, and service delivery, have inevitably engaged questions of sexuality. We see that in today's generation premarital sexual intercourse became increasingly common over the past decades, the number of lifetime sexual partners has increased for both men and women, and there is a rise of live in situation where unmarried people are living together. Prostitution is also rising within society. Young people have become more permissible to various sexual activities and desires and negative attitude towards homosexuality has decrease.

Theoretical Framework

There are a number of theories on sex and sexuality. Some of these are as follows:

Evolutionary Theory: This theory seeks to understand the desires and behaviors of individuals as a product of ancestors who produce more and better offspring. Theorists under this school argue that human sex and sexuality relating to attraction, romance, maintaining relationship, sexual intercourse,

sexual orientations and emotions in relationships have been shaped, somehow, in parts by the evolutionary process**.** Darwinian theory implies that differential reproductive success is the key to biological evolution. Sexuality was therefore a natural focus for evolutionarily minded scientists, because mating is central to reproductive success. Nevertheless, many evolutionary researchers found themselves accused of being obsessed with sex (Baumeister, Maner and DeWall, 2006).

Feminist theory: This theory have complicated relationship to questions concerning nature, biology, or the body, particularly as articulated in reductionist accounts that assume anatomical, hormonal, or chromosomal determinism. Feminist theories of sexuality cannot be understood simply as a fixed biological essence and that it involves power dynamics, as captured by the phrase 'sexually politics'. Feminist debate about sexuality initially focused on women's free disposition of their own bodies. Feminist struggle defend the body as a privileged space of autonomy. Gayle S. Rubin (1984) in her theory, proposed a useful way to think about sex and sexual politics in order to create radical theory of sex. The realm of sexuality also has its own internal politics, inequalities and modes of oppression. Like other human institutions, sexuality is also a product of human activity.

Psychoanalytic Theory: The Psychoanalytic theory related to human sex and sexuality was greatly influence by Sigmund Freud. It emphasis on the concept of sex drive which includes desire for love, affiliation and belongingness. Sigmund Freud regarded sex drive as one of the two main motivations that underlie all human striving (the other being aggression). The sex Freud interpreted sex drive, so as to encompass desires for love, affiliation, and belongingness. He emphasized that the drive could be transformed in many ways, including via symbolic associations. Creative art and philanthropy, for example, were regarded as transformations (sublimations) of the energy from the sex drive, which suggests that symbolically the philanthropist is having sex with the beneficiaries of his largesse (Baumeister, Maner and DeWall, 2006).

Operationalization of the Concept

College student: - An individual who is attending an institution of higher education.

Gender: - Gender is a socially and culturally constructed set of beliefs, values and behavior that defines each of us as male and female.

Sex: - Sex is a biological term based on the anatomical and physiological deference among male, female and intersex that is genetically determined.

Sexuality: - Sexuality is a board term that encompasses the set of beliefs, values and behavior that defines each of us as a sexual being. It also encompasses the identity of an individual how he/ she identify himself/ herself.

Sexual behavior: - It is a broad spectrum of behaviors in which humans display their sexuality.

Youth: - Youth is young people who has not yet reached adulthood and refers to the time period before a person becomes an adult. Youth is the time of life when one is young, and often means the time between childhood and adulthood (15 to 29 years of age).

Statement of the Problem

The study of sexuality especially among youth is an essential need of society as sexuality is one of the most common traits in young generation. The need of the study of youth in sociological research is such that, it can bring about essential understanding about the highest populated group in India and provide an understanding on how interventions can be made to sustain society and enhance human functioning. In the process of holistic development of the youth, an important part is ignored so far by the adults due to cultural ties and other reason is the individuals' sexuality. The sexual attitudes and behaviors of college students have changed throughout the recent history. This has resulted in a generation who engages in sexual experimentation earlier than ever before. The social media culture dangerously mix explicit content and sex, in the life of young once, as they can access sex or sexual information 24 hours a day with just the click of a mouse.

Since various developments taking place in society, youth have been submerged with cultures other than their own, making way for a, state of anomies' a sense of normlessness among the youth. There exists a cultural lag among the youth as a result of this transition brought by various agents of change taking place in the society. This has loosened traditions and norms that curtailed to sustain the erstwhile youth. Today, the generation gap is increasing and the understandings of sexuality among the youth have become distorted in such a way that it has given rise to other social problems. Pre-marital sex, sexual abuse, sexual violence, unwanted pregnancies, substance abuse and suicide etc. are rising among youth in increasing way. There is also a rise in homosexuals and bisexuals who have

revealed their sexual orientation openly to the public. This all happen because of lack of communication with adults and correct knowledge on sexuality.

Importance of the Study

In the present scenario in our society, there is a need of sociological study of sexuality among college going students. As they are one of the most valuable segments of a nation who play an important role in the development of society and nation building. College going students are the backbone of any nation as future of a nation depends on their young shoulders. An important reason to study human sex and sexuality as it is a source of motivation in everyone's life regardless of whether we are young or old, man or woman because it is an integral part of what we do and who we are. Throughout time, it has always been a vital part of human existence for all civilizations and societies.

Today's colleges going students are not apart from it, as sexual desires and practices are very common among them. Today's youth is the most sexually open-minded and tolerant generation. So to understand the sexual attitudes and knowledge of them is important, as sexuality is a major factor to build someone's character. Issues of sexual behavior and identity are increasingly prominent in various parts of world and media. While sexuality has always been an important part of youth, notions of sexuality have become now more fluid and flexible. It may be said that this topic is still a taboo in some context in our society, cause of cultural barriers and social norms, but with the changing scenario in present day society with the effect of globalization, and social media culture today's youth is most affected and shaped by it. So it is very important to understand the nature of our young generation (generation Z) toward it.

Review of Literature

Review of literature is a comprehensive summary of previous research on a topic. It is a critical and evaluative description and analysis of the publication on a specific selected topic. A review of literature is supposed to provide the researcher with a general image of the existing knowledge on the topic. To carry out the in depth study of the research problem researcher has done some of the reviews related to research problem which are as follow:

Sharma & Sharma (1996) examined the sexual behavior of adolescent girls in India and their knowledge concerning sexual matters. A total of 530 girls of 17-19 years age, from three colleges in

Anand taluk of Gujarat State were studied. Results showed that the knowledge about human sexuality, reproduction and contraception was poor among the college girls. The findings of the study indicated that even educated girls do not possess sufficient knowledge regarding certain normal physiological functions of the body such as sexuality and reproduction. Youth need to be taught about these body functions since ignorance perpetuates myths and misbelief. In societies such as ours where parents do not normally discuss such matters with their children, this could be achieved by incorporating family life education/sex education in school curriculum.

Aggarwal, et al. (2000) studied the knowledge about sexuality of medical college students in India. This study was carried out among the undergraduate students of a medical college in Delhi with the purpose of examining the knowledge of medical students about sex and its learning sources and their sexual behavior and practice. A semi closed-type questionnaire was voluntarily filled out by the 500 students. The result showed that there is need to improve knowledge about different aspects of sex among Indian medical students.

Higgins, et al. (2011) conducted a survey on the sexual satisfaction and sexual health among university students in the United States. The survey of 3186 student of 4 different universities in the United States was conducted with the aim to know about the physiological and psychological satisfaction with their current sexual lives. The result showed that sexual satisfaction, as a critical element of sexual health and as a potential correlate of several other health indicators. Several of the same individual-level, relationship-level, and cultural-level factors correlated with sexual satisfaction among adults were also correlated with sexual satisfaction in university students.

Ramadugu, et al. (2011) explained in their study that adolescent is one of the most important phases of life to explore sexuality. To understand the mind set of them is one of the most important need of society as it help them in growing healthily. Students in two urban schools of an Indian city from class IX to XII were administered a self-reporting questionnaire on matters related to sexuality. Finding showed that the incidence of having sexual contact was 30.08% for boys and 17.18% for girls. 6.31% boys and 1.31% girls reported having had experienced sexual intercourse. Friends constituted the main sexual partners for both boys and girls. Sexual abuse had been reported by both girls and boys. Adolescent school students were involved in sexual activity, but lack adequate knowledge in this

regard.

Kumar, et al. (2013) analyzed the interaction of media, sexual activity and academic achievement in adolescents. This study was conducted on 586 students of two co-education schools using a self-reporting questionnaire administered to students of class IX-XII. The aim of this study was to evaluate the relation of academic performance, exposure to media such as television & internet to sexual activity & academic performance of the students. The finding indicated the significant positive association among boys between sexual contact and average score in academics & unsupervised use of internet. In both genders a significant positive association was found between those watching english serials, movies and increased chances of indulging in sexual activity while a negative relation with those watching cartoons.

Martin & Mark (2013) examined the college students' sexual knowledge and attitude. This study was conducted on 201 college students from a Mid-Atlantic University. The main purpose of this study was to identify and examine the sexual knowledge & sexual attitude of students. The findings indicated that the students achieve 83% score on sexual knowledge with all students having either an ambivalent or progressive attitude toward sexual knowledge which came from friend and personal experience. This study revealed that there were no significant statistical differences in sexual knowledge between males and females as well as between younger and older students. But a significant difference was found between male and female students in their sexual attitude. Female students were significantly more progressive/open-minded than male students in their attitude where males were more ambivalent.

Wanyonyi (2014) explained about youth sexual behavior and sex education in secondary schools in Kenya. This study was done on 20 secondary schools in Uasin Gishu Countymain in Kenya to assess the relationship between youth sexual behavior and exposure to aspects of sex education. The results indicated that majority of students are sexually active which lead to pregnancies, abortions, and STI's including HIV. The situation of sex education in secondary schools in Kenya was also presented as integrated part in curriculum at school but the Sexual Education policy was not explicit, resulting it to mainly confusion.

Kar, et al. (2015) in their article "understanding normal development of adolescent sexuality: a

bumpy ride", explained that without sexual understanding, one cannot move forward for clinical or educational intervention. Adolescence is the age to explore and understand sexuality. Understanding the factors influencing sexuality is also useful for intervention. Biological and social both factors play important role to develop adolescent sexuality. Sexual curiosity in the adolescence led to exposure to pornography, indulgence in sexual activities, and also increases the vulnerability for sexual abuse. Many critical biological, as well as psychological changes occur during this phase for which many adolescents are not prepared enough to cope with, which often puts them under stress. Understanding the factors influencing sexuality is also useful for help them to guide to better future.

Kumsa (2015) studied about the factors affecting the sexual behavior of youth and adolescent. A qualitative cross-sectional study design was done to identify determining factors affecting safe sexual practice among youth and adolescents attending Family Guidance Association of Jimma, Ethiopia, with the aim to identify facilitative factors which can help adolescents to develop their capacity for better decision about safe sexual behavior. Results showed that several facilitative factors that can encourage youth and adolescents to have safe sex practices are identified at individual, family and organizational levels.

Lee, et al. (2016) did a study on sexual knowledge, attitude, desire, and behavior among college students. Data was collected from 500 students studying in 3 universities (Chang Gung University of Science and Technology, Tzu Chi College of Technology, and National Dong Hwa University) of Taiwan. The results showed that the university students lacked Sexual Knowledge, even though they had a medical educational background and also were engaged in premarital Sexual Behavior. There was also a cultural taboo against sex education and education about the use of contraception among youth. The majority of university students gain knowledge on sex and sexuality mainly through peer groups and mass media, but their knowledge was inadequate. Without correct Sexual Knowledge, unprotected Sexual Behavior is more likely to set off the increase of HIV infection, to increased baby abortions, unwelcome childbearing, or early and unnecessary marriage.

Sharon (2017) examined the concept of sexuality among women college students at Tiruchirappalli. A descriptive research design was adopted on 325 final year under graduation girls studying in Holy Cross College. With the aim to understand the opinion about sexual practices, level of misconception

about sex and the awareness about sexuality among women college students. The result showed that youth rely on films and peers for the information on sexual and reproductive health resulted to be poorly informed or misinformed on these issues. Sex education remains insufficient and irrelevant to young people's needs, and reproductive health services remain unreachable, unaffordable and of low quality.

Soltani, et al. (2017) examined the sources of adolescents' information about Sexual and Reproductive Health. A descriptive, cross-sectional study had been performed on 770students between 18-20 years age, in the universities of the city of Hamadan, Iran The to find out the sources of sexual and reproductive information between Iranian teen girls and boys. Findings indicated that the most common source of sexual and reproductive information was friends in both male and female adolescents, after that of for girls was their mothers and movies and the internet were the top sources in boys.

Grossman, et al. (2018) analyzed the youth communication on sexuality with parent and extended-family. Using a mixed-methods approach, a sample of 22 teens from different racial and ethnic backgrounds was interviewed. Participants were asked to identify family members with whom they talk about sex and relationships. Results indicated that teens were more likely to describe conversations as awkward or uncomfortable with parents than with extended family. 86% of teens reported that they talk about it with parents or extended family. But mostly teens were more likely to talk with extended family than parents as it easier to talk with them. Some teens reported that they avoid talking with parents about issues related to sexuality due to feeling of awkwardness and negative reaction.

Williams, et al. (2018) in their study "Dare to be different": How Religious Groups Frame and Enact Appropriate Sexuality and Gender Norms among Young Adults". Explained how religious groups frame and enact appropriate sexuality and gender norms among young adults. The aim of the study was to examine religious congregations and other religious organizations oriented toward youth, work to manage the gender and sexual developments in their youth's transitions to adulthood. Findings showed that religious leaders from a variety of traditions worked with youth in an attempt to mold them on their journey to adulthood prescribed avoidance, self-restraint, and disengagement. In which

young men and women are segregated in many religious and educational settings and encouraged to moderate any cross-gender contact and learn to control themselves through internal moral codes.

Kammer-Kerwick, et al. (2019) examined the sexual violence among gender and sexual minority college students. A multisite survey conducted on 17,039 students with 1,869 gender and sexual minority (GSM) students at eight campuses of a southwestern university. This study aimed to measure sexual violence among students with the relationship between gender identity/sexual orientation and mental health for university students. Results show that GSM students are at increased risk for experiencing sexual violence compared with their cisgender heterosexual peers. Furthermore, results indicated that GSM students who experience sexual violence victimization report more mental health problems and negative academic outcomes. These factors contribute to, and may arise from, the ongoing marginalization of GSM students.

Mukherjee, et al. (2019) studied about the knowledge, prevailing attitudes, and beliefs toward sexuality and common sexual practices among college students. This study had done on 952 students from 7 randomly selected colleges in Vellore District in Tamil Nadu with the aim to understand about the knowledge, attitude and beliefs toward sexuality among college students. The result showed that sexual knowledge was inadequate and sexual misconceptions were widely spread in student. Attitudes toward sexuality among respondent was colored by the sociocultural milieu. Many young people were comfortable with the notion of premarital romantic or sexual relationships.

Caltabiano, et al. (2020) explained that sexual behavior of young people that had silently begun to change in the previous decades, now in recent years have seen tremendously changed , cause of social media and the web propagating easy-going lifestyles, even in countries where such transformation proceeds at a slower pace. The changes in sexual behavior that characterized the last 50 years are related to a more general process of transformation, involving transition to adulthood, union formation and dissolution, and reproductive. Regarding sexual behavior, two aspects are prominent: an increased emphasis placed on individual autonomy, including in sexual lifestyle, and the rejection of social control and rules. Thus, premarital and extramarital sexual intercourse, extramarital fertility, and homosexual relationships have become more and more publicly disclosed and institutionalized in recent era.

Lyu, et al. (2020) studied about the sexual knowledge, attitudes and behaviors among undergraduate students in China. The aim of this study was to explore sexual knowledge, sexual attitudes and sexual behaviors, as well as preferences for sex education among undergraduates in China. A cross-sectional study was conduct among 5965 undergraduate students, from nine universities through on-line survey in Yunnan, Henan and Zhejiang Provinces. The result showed that relatively low levels of sexual knowledge among Chinese students contribute to unsafe sexual behavior. On-line sex education among students was a priority. Sexual attitudes between males and females, though overall attitudes across both sexes were relatively conservative. But both male and female undergraduates believed that premarital sex is more acceptable for males than for females.

Nnebue, et al. (2020) analyzed the effect of social media on undergraduate college going students. A descriptive cross-sectional survey among 300 undergraduate students of Madonna University Nigeria, Elele campus, was conducted. Respondents were selected using multistage sampling technique. This study found an association between use of social media for sexually explicit content and risky sexual practices. The findings of this study showed that about 95.3% of respondents claimed they ever used social media. Their primary reasons for their use of social media was to have access to news and academic materials, to watch sex movies and pornography. The study also find that a majority of respondents accessed social media for sexually explicit contents and that this could have effects on their sexual activity.

Elizabeth, et al. (2021) studied the knowledge & perception of sex education among college students. The this study was conducted on 120 students of Nursing in Jyoti College of Management, Science and Technology Bareilly to know the knowledge and perception of sex education among the students. The findings indicated that there was lack of good knowledge and perception of sex education among students.

Tekletsadik, et al. (2022) examined about the risky sexual behaviors leading to sexually transmitted diseases and unintended pregnancies among college students. This study was conducted at the University of Gondar, of Ethiopia. An institution-based cross-sectional study was conducted on select 420 students. The result showed that the prevalence of RSB among undergraduate students was 44.0%. It indicates that RSB is a common health concern among undergraduate university students.

This study also indicated that place of residence was another determinant factor associated with sexual behavior. Those students who lived in urban areas were almost two times more likely to be engaged in RSB as compared to those students who lived in rural areas. Apart from it special attention is required for students who use alcohol, and who did not live with family and who have urban residence.

Research Questions

The research questions of the present study are as follow:-

- What college students understand by sexuality and how their gender and socio- economic background plays a vital role to define it?
- How sexuality play an important role in the era of mass / social media to determine interaction, relations and culture of college going students?

Objectives of the Study

- To study of socio-economic background of college going student.
- To understand the knowledge and their sources on sexuality among college going students across gender.
- To analyze the influence of social / mass media exposure to shapes college going students' culture with specific reference to sexuality.
- To study the interaction and relationship of college going students among family & peer group.

Research Methodology and Research Design

Research methodology is the study of research method to collect information, interpretation of data for the purpose to find the conclusion and solution of the study. The methodology includes design of study, selection of research area and universe, sampling techniques also.

Research Design: The research design of the present study will be descriptive and exploratory.

Research Area: The areas of present research will be Colleges of Agra District. The number of colleges of Agra district is 270 as per the list released by DBRAU in 2017.

The Universe: The present study will be on all the college (degree) students of Agra district. **Sampling:** At first stage 5 percentage of college will be selected on the basis of Random Sampling (Tippet's Method). On second stage, a sample of 460 respondents (undergraduate students) will be

selected by using stratified random Sampling. This 460 sample will be in equal proportion on the basis of students enrolled in degree classes of sampled colleges.

Unit of the Study: The unit of the present study will be under-graduate students of degree colleges of Agra district.

Sources of Data Collection: Primary and secondary sources of data will be collected and used for completion of research.

Tools of Data Collection

Primary Data- Primary data will be collected by using self-constructed questionnaire.

Secondary Data- Secondary data will be collected from books, magazines, journals, internet web sites, government records, other official records etc.

Data Collection, Analysis and Presentation- Primary data will be collected through field work and secondary data will be collected from secondary sources. Collected data will be edited, classified and analyzed.

Tentative Chapterization

Chapter 1: Introduction

- Introduction to Youth & Sexuality
- Theoretical Framework
- Statement of the Problem
- Importance of the Study
- Review of Literature
- Research Questions
- Objectives
- Research Methodology & Research Design

Chapter 2

- Socio-Economic Background of College going Student.

Chapter 3

- Knowledge and Awareness on Sexuality among College Going Students across Gender.

Chapter 4

- Influence of Social / Mass Media Exposure to Shapes College Going Students' Culture with Specific Reference to Sexuality.

Chapter 5

- Interaction and Relationship of College going Students among Family & Peer Group.

Chapter 6: Summary & Conclusion.

- ❖ Summary
- ❖ Conclusion
- ❖ Field experience
- ❖ Suggestions
- ❖ Limitations of the study

- Appendix

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